GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2869
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF GUJARAT RIOTS
Mistry Shri Madhusudan Devram

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided assistance to State Government of Gujarat to compensate the 2001 riot victims in the State;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether any money from the Central assistance of Rs. 150 crores provided by the Union Government remained unspent with the State Government of Gujarat;

(d) if so, the reasons for not providing this money by the Government of Gujarat to riot victims; and

(e) the details of heads in which the State Government spent the said assistance?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (e): The Union Government has not provided any assistance to State Government of Gujarat to compensate the 2001 riot victims in the State. However, in the wake of Godhra train carnage related communal riots in various parts of Gujarat in 2002, the then Prime Minister announced in Lok Sabha on April 30th, 2002 a Rs. 150 crore Package for Economic Rehabilitation for the relief and rehabilitation of the riot victims in that State. The package of assistance was primarily to include:

reconstruction and repair of damaged houses and shops, both in rural and urban areas;

provision of assistance to all the self employed categories who lost their earning assets;

financial support for recommencing business, commercial, and industrial activities;

revival of educational, medical and other institutions in the affected areas and special programmes to benefit widows and children.

As per available information, a total of Rs. 155.61 crore has been received from various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India out of which Rs. 136.51 crore was spent by the State Government and the balance amount of Rs. 19.10 crore was returned to the Union Government as unspent balance. Details of various heads of amounts released and expenditure incurred are indicated in the Annexure.